

REMARKS

Applicants respond to the Office Action of February 15, 2006 as follows:

The Examiner has acknowledged the Applicants' election without traverse of Group IA, claims 1-3 and 5-16, in the previous Office Action. Claims 4 and 17-34 are now cancelled in favor of a divisional application being submitted contemporaneously.

Claims 1 - 3 have been rejected under either 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) or 103 as allegedly being anticipated by Siebert or rendered obvious in view of Siebert and Richardson. Purely in order to expedite prosecution, and without prejudice, Applicants cancel claims 1 – 3 herewith in favor of claims presented in a divisional application being filed contemporaneously.

Claims 4 and 17 – 34 have also been cancelled presently as noted above, leaving only allowed claims 5 – 16 and 35 pending in the application. Accordingly, applicants submit that the application has been placed in full condition for allowance as a result.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
USAN 10/606,829

A8583

Respectfully submitted,

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